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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/485,408	02/07/2000	SIEGFRIED WILHELM	2345/115	1878

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EXAMINER

ARANI, TAGHI T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2131

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/485,408

Applicant(s)

WILHELM ET AL.

Examiner

Taghi T. Arani

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-21 and 28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-21 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Taghi T. Arani
Primary Examiner
PTO 2131
Taghi T. Arani
6/23/06

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 15-21 and 28 have been examined and are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/07/2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 06/07/2006 regarding the rejection of the claims 15-21 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As per Applicant's arguments relating to rejection of claim 15, the Applicant argues that both the Majeti and Gammie references alone or in combination do not describe or suggest all of the features of claim 15 such as the forth interface claimed in the mannner claimed. The Examiner responds that as stated in the previous office action (mailed 5/31/2005, page 5, first paragraph of the Final action) Gammie reference does disclose the forth interface.

Applicant's arguments fail to comply with 37 CFR 1.111(b) because they amount to a general allegation that the claims define a patentable invention without specifically pointing out how the language of the claims patentably distinguishes them from the references.

Applicant's arguments do not comply with 37 CFR 1.111(c) because they do not clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of

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the art disclosed by the references cited. Further, they do not show how the amendments avoid such references.

Claims 16 to 21 depend from claim 15 and stand rejected as addressed in the final Office action dated 5/31/2005. Applicants still have failed to identify specific claim limitations', which would define a patentable distinction over prior arts.

Therefore, the examiner asserts that cited prior art does teach or suggest the subject matter recited in independent claim 15 and in subsequent dependent claims 2-21. Accordingly, rejections for claims 1-21 are respectfully maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quota on of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over prior art of record, U.S. Patent No. 5,534,913 to Majeti et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,029,207 to Gammie.

Referring to claim 15, Majeti et al. teach a decoder device for decrypting encrypted television programs, the decoder device comprising;

a control unit [figure 4, HOME CONTROLLER 122];

a second interface for interfacing to the control unit [figure 5, 132];

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a third interface for interfacing to a telecommunications network [column 3, lines 59-67].

Majeti et al do not teach decoder device for decrypting encrypted television programs, the decoder device comprising:

an input for receiving the encrypted television program;

a decryption device for decrypting the encrypted television program into a format reproducible by a television set:

an output capable of being connected to the television set so as to output the decrypted television program to the television set for reproduction;

a first interface for interfacing to at least one of a first identification and a first key carrier component for enabling the decryption device, the first interface being disposed in the control unit; and

a fourth interface for interfacing to at least one of a second identification and a second key carrier component, an authorization by at least one of the second identification and the second key carrier component being useable for establishing a connection to a subscriber via the communications network.

However, Gammie discloses a decoder device comprising:

an input for receiving the encrypted television program [figure 5, SATELLITE LINK 505];

a decryption device for decrypting the encrypted television program into a format reproducible by a television set [figure! 5, PROGRAM DESCRAMBLER 508];

an output capable of being connected to the television set so as to output the decrypted television program to the television set for reproduction [figure 5, OUTPUT 509];

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a first interface for interfacing to at least one of a first identification and a first key carrier component for enabling the decryption device, the first interface being disposed in the control unit [figure 5, replaceable security module 514]; and

a fourth interface for interfacing to at least one of a second identification and a second key carrier component, An authorization by at least one of the second identification and the second key carrier component being useable for establishing a connection to a subscriber via the communications network [figure 5, replaceable security module 514 and column 6, lines 49-53].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Gammie's teachings of decrypting the received programs for a conditional access television system to the system and method of Majeti et al. such that Majeti et al.'s system could include a smart card reader in the HOME CONTROLLER for reading decryptor, keys/identification from smart cards. The decryption keys would then be sent to the decryption device newly placed in the set top box. One would have been motivated to modify Majeti et al.'s system as such in order to provide higher security for the transmitted program information [column 6, lines 48-50]

Referring to claim 16, Majeti et al. as modified teach the decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the fourth interface is disposed in the control unit [figure 5, replaceable security module 514 and column 6, lines 49-53].

Referring to claim 17, Majeti et al. as modified teach the decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the television set includes a fifth interface for receiving control commands and wherein the control unit is capable of controlling the television set [column 12, line 37-column 13, line 3].

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Referring to claim 18, Majeti et al. as modified teach the decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the first and the second identification and/or key carrier components include a respective smart card or a common smart card [column 11, lines 63-65 to Gammie].

Referring to claim 19, Majeti et al. as modified teach the decoder device as recited in claim 15 further comprising a sixth interface for connecting the decoder device to a computer [figure 1, 72 to Majeti], the computer being adaptable for at least one of controlling the decoder device and establishing a connection to a subscriber via the telecommunications network (figure 1 MODEM 76).

Referring to claim 20, Majeti et al. as modified teach the decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the control unit includes a computer, the computer including a seventh interface for controlling the decoder device and including the first and fourth interfaces [figure 1, PERSONAL COMPUTER 74 and HOME CONTROLLER 70].

Referring to claim 21, Majeti et al. as modified teach all limitations of claim 21 except for the limitation of the decoder device is integrated in the television set.

However Gammie discloses the decoder device is integrated in the television set [column 6, line 26-28 of Gammie].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Gammie's teachings of integrating the decoder into the television set to the system and method of Majeti et al. One would have been motivated to modify Majeti et al.'s system as such in order to make for a more compact unit [column 6, lines 26-28].

As per claim 28, Majeti et al. teach the decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the second interface is a keypad operable by a user. (col. 7, lines 20-26, i.e. the set top box connected

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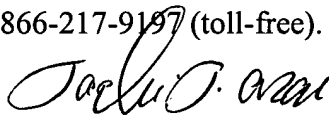
to control channel 132 which is utilized to transmit a signal from the set top box which identifies the channel to which it is tuned (selected by the user) to provide information to the home controller (keypad operable by the user is inherent in set top box)).

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Taghi T. Arani whose telephone number is (571) 272-3787. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Taghi T. Arani, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2131
6/18/2006